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Washington, D. C. 20505

OLC 79-0113/z

3 July 1979

Mr. Edmund L. Henshaw, Jr., Clerk House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 OD/A Registry
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Dear Mr. Henshaw:

I wish to express my appreciation to your office and to the Chairman, Members and staff leaders of the House Select Committee on Assassinations for the considerations extended in facilitating this Agency's pre-publication review of the Final Report of the Committee to assure against inadvertent disclosure of classified information concerning intelligence sources and methods.

Recognizing the importance and complexity of the task imposed upon the Committee, this Agency did everything within its power, including opening up its files in a manner unprecedented for a Congressional investigation outside the structure of Congressionally chartered oversight and appropriations committees, to fully support the Committee's investigation. I am personally satisfied that no relevant information in our files and no relevant files, no matter how revealing of our sources and methods, were withheld from the Committee. I am also gratified at the diligence exercised by the Committee in protecting this sensitive information from unauthorized disclosure.

We, of course, note the Committee's reaffirmation that this Agency was not involved in the assassination of President Kennedy.

The findings and conclusions of the Committee and the supporting research will serve history for years to come. It is for this reason that I feel it is important that the record reflect our views that the conclusion in the report that the Central Intelligence Agency was deficient in its collection and sharing of information both prior to and subsequent to the assassination is at variance with the preponderance of evidence available to this Agency and thus available to the Committee staff as well.

It is the strongest belief of those familiar with the record that the Agency was neither deficient in its collection nor in its sharing of information with the appropriate investigative bodies before and after the assassination. The totality of Agency records made available to the

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Committee staff, in the unprecedented fashion noted above, viewed in the context of the times immediately preceding and following the assassination, clearly demonstrates the CIA's complete dedication to collecting and reporting information relevant to the assassination to the appropriate investigative bodies. The record to which I refer is, of course, now part of the Archival record of the House of Representatives.

I respectfully request that you consider this letter to be an official Agency position with respect to the Final Report of the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

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cc: Honorable Louis Stokes Honorable Samuel Devine Honorable Richardson Preyer

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